

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

CIEP-03 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 AGR-20

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

LAB-06 SIL-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 L-03 H-03 DODE-00

EA-11 EUR-25 DRC-01 /216 W
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R 261330Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7994

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ECON EG

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF COORDINATOR FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE

1. ACCORDING TO CAIRO PRESS JULY 25, PRESIDENT SADAT "HAS AGREED TO THE APPOINTMENT OF "DR. AHMAD MUHAMMAD EFFAT AS EGYPTIAN "SUPERVISOR" FOR U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. SUPERVISORS WERE ALSO ANNOUNCED FOR WEST GERMANY AND "SOCIALIST STATES". (SUPERVISOR FOR IRANIAN ASSISTANCE WAS PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED. SEE CAIRO 3659, AND AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON JAPAN IS EXPECTED.) THESE SUPERVISORS WILL WORK DIRECTLY FOR HEGAZI IN COORDINATION WITH ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGENCY.

2. EFFAT GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITY OF CAIRO, FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND STUDIED MARITIME TRANSPORT IN THE UNITED STATES. HIS DOCTORAL TITLE INDICATES HE HAS HIGHER DEGREE, POSSIBLY FROM THE UNITED STATES. HE WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE ALEXANDRIA DOCKYARD COMPANY AND SPENT SOME TIME IN JAPAN STUDYING MARITIME AFFAIRS BEFORE BEING APPOINTED AS MINISTER OF MARITIME TRANSPORT IN JANUARY 1972. HIS PORTFOLIO WAS SHORT LIVED, HOWEVER, AND HE LEFT THE CABINET IN MARCH 1973. WE
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HAVE NO INFORMATION ON HIS ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST YEAR.

3. COMMENT: SUBJECT OF APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE WAS DISCUSSED BY HEGAZI DURING FIRST MEETING WITH SECRETARY SIMON JULY 14. HEGAZI SAID THAT APPOINTEE WOULD HAVE

SUBMINISTRERIAL RANK BUT THAT HE HAD NOT AT THE TIME DECIDED ON ANYONE. AMBASSADOR STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF DESIGNATING A PERSON FOR SO POTENTIALLY CRITICAL A JOB, WHO KNOW NOT ONLY EGYPTIAN PROCEDURES WELL, BUT WAS ALSO ACQUAINTED WITH U.S. AND HOW USG OPERATES. HEGAZI READILY AGREED THAT THIS WAS IMPORTANT. ALTHOUGH EFFAT IS EX-MINISTER, ANNOUNCEMENT DID NOT GIVE HIM ANY NEW POSITION. HE IS UNKNOWN BY CURRENT EMBASSY STAFF INCLUDING OUR FSLs. WE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT HEGAZI CHOSE WISELY.

4. INTERESTINGLY, AHMED DEWIDAR, UNDERSECRETARY OF THE ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGENCY ASKED EMBOFF JULY 25 IF WE HAD ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING EFFAT'S FUNCTION, SAYING THAT AGENCY IS AT A LOSS TO SEE HOW HE WILL FIT INTO ITS OPERATION. AMBASSADOR PLANNING EARLY CALL ON EFFAT AND HOPEFULLY WILL BE ABLE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HIM AND HIS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES.
EILTS

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